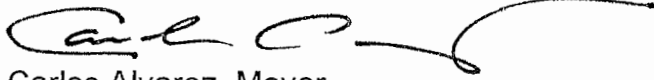




MEMORANDUM
OFFICE OF THE MAYOR

DATE: February 14, 2006

TO: Honorable Chairman Joe A. Martinez and Members,
Board of County Commissioners

FROM: 
Carlos Alvarez, Mayor
Miami-Dade County

SUBJECT: Education Compact between Miami-Dade County and Miami-Dade County Public Schools

One of the first people that I met with when I took office was Dr. Rudy Crew, Superintendent of Miami-Dade County Public Schools. We discussed ways where we could partner in an effort to provide better services to the citizens of Miami-Dade County. That is why I would like to offer my support for the proposed formation of an education compact between Miami-Dade County and Miami-Dade County Public Schools. This is an opportunity for the County and the school system to build on our current working relationships and further establish our status as a world-class community.

There are several key areas that the County and Miami-Dade County Public Schools should collaborate in, such as fuel purchasing, health insurance, emergency management and response. We can also mutually benefit from law enforcement, professional development, and joint use of educational facilities. By pooling our needs and our resources, we can better leverage our County residents' tax dollars to achieve the maximum benefit.

I commend Commissioner Carlos Gimenez for sponsoring Resolution 2N – which calls for a Task Force composed of members from the County and Miami-Dade Public Schools to explore ways for cooperation and collaboration between the two organizations – on the February 15, 2006 Intergovernmental, Recreation and Cultural Affairs Committee. I urge all of the members of the County Commission and the School Board to support adoption of this important resolution and look forward to working with all of you to ensure successful implementation of this educational compact.

c: George Burgess, County Manager
Dr. Rudy Crew, Superintendent of Miami-Dade County Public Schools
Chairperson and Members, School Board of Miami-Dade County